

SECURITY INFORMATION  
SECRET

AIR

SGAA 6439

OCT 10 1953

Chief, SE  
Attn: [ ]

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BGFIEND/PSYCH

Field Meeting Report [ ]

Visit to Athens 17-21 September 1953

1. Because of the difficulties encountered with the September 15th issue of QKPalng, [ ] made the trip to Athens instead of [ ] This visit was a valuable one as it gave [ ] BGFIEND personnel an opportunity to catch up to date on recent developments [ ] and provided a good opportunity to discuss mutual problems including handling of the cut back to HTNeigh's budget.

2. The following matters were reviewed in a meeting attended by [ ] and [ ]

a. The visa problem for the prospective additions to HTGrubby and the need to cut back the size of this list in view of a reduced budget was discussed. The Greeks have strongly objected to issuance of visas and it was explained to [ ] at whoever is finally selected may have a further wait in store for him. A dispatch expanding on this subject has recently been addressed to Rome.

b. [ ] briefed those present on the latest difficulty with the HTNeigh propaganda staff who tried to print an explosive article in the 15 September issue of QKPalng unbeknownst to [ ] This matter has been reported in detail by [ ] by cable.

c. Printing arrangements in Frankfort were reviewed by [ ] As we are to continue depending on the support [ ] for some time to come for OEEK and possibly other work, [ ] stated we should develop a routine as soon as possible to avoid overtime labor costs and imposition on the printing shop. This means giving Frankfort sufficient notice and having a BGFIEND representative on hand to mother each job through. [ ] commented most favorably on the cooperation she received and the facilities available.

d. [ ] brought up the question of the language used in publications and stressed the need of simplifying the language so it would be more understandable for the common Albanian. [ ] agreed that the word usage was on too high a level for the average Albanian and

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assured [ ] that this problem would be once again presented to the Propaganda Committee with the recommendation that the word usage immediately be simplified.

e. There was a question of the HTGrubby time schedule and this was clarified for all concerned by obtaining the time zone for Albania. Albanian local time is GMT plus 1.

f. [ ] gave [ ] 1,500,000 Drs., from RNAduna for AIPoet, which were credited to [ ] account by [ ] will send the \$50.00 to AIPoet and his receipt will be given to RNAduna.

g. [ ] brought up the question of the procurement of Albanian newspapers and other publications through the Rome Embassy. [ ] said she had been advised by her Embassy contact that State did not receive these publications through Rome. It was decided that the whole problem of procuring these publications should be solved by Headquarters as there seemed little hope in developing a field source. [ ] did mention that there was a possibility that [ ] would be able to develop a source for material of this type and if so we would share with [ ] Later correspondence on the subject has confirmed [ ] report.

h. The question of pouch service between Rome and Athens was brought up and [ ] reported that there were three pouches a week from Rome to Athens and Athens to Rome, and that our registry people claimed there was no delay at this end.

i. [ ] was given some defection leaflets which will be mailed to appropriate members of the Albanian diplomatic service as a follow-up to previous mailings.

j. [ ] showed [ ] an article in the NEW YORK TIMES as reported by Yugoslav press and Italian News Agency regarding execution of reactionaries in Lushnje. This information had been previously "leaked" by Tewell who linked the story with RNPutlog. [ ] promised to have Tewell, innocently, asked as to why he linked this information with RNPutlog.

k. [ ] attention was brought to an article on medicine in the Iron Curtain Review which seemed to be a good article for Shqiperia. [ ] agreed and said both she and [ ] could welcome any articles or suggestions for articles which [ ] wished to submit.

3. In a meeting with [ ] and [ ] a cable was drafted in paraphrase form for release in Rome upon [ ] return providing [ ] concurred. In this cable, field views on the cut back and its timing were reported. Subsequent developments voided the necessity for this, and to date the problem has not been a serious one, nor one on which there was disagreement between [ ] and [ ] At this meeting, the necessity of cutting other BGFland expenditures such as reduction in volume and length of cables was emphasized.

4. During the visit, [ ] also held discussions with [ ] to brief him on the current situation in Rome and also met with [ ] and [ ] who was en route to Cairo for a review of the current political situation in Rome. At this meeting, the importance of the Orness-BGPrefix union was discussed as well as the current Italian attitude toward HTNeigh and other Albanian refugee elements in Italy.

8 October 53  
WFH/tog

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